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PAGE 01 BERLIN 00403 01 OF 02 141458Z

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ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 H-02 SS-20 L-04 DODE-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00  
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FM USMISSION BERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5517  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BERLIN 0403

SUBJECT: JOINT USBER/USCOB BRIEFING FOR PINCUS AND PAUL

REF: STATE 23736

1. A. GENERAL: GROUP WAS WELL PLEASED WITH ACCOMMODATIONS AND ITINERARY PLANNED FOR THEIR VISIT. BOTH PINCUS AND PAUL WERE CORDIAL THROUGHOUT THEIR STAY IN BERLIN AND SEEMED GENUINELY IMPRESSED WITH STRAIGHTFORWARD CLASSIFIED PRESENTATION THEY RECEIVED.

B. ON EVENING OF ARRIVAL (10 MARCH 1970) MR. RYAN, POLITICAL OFFICER, U.S. MISSION, DINED IN A RESTAURANT WITH THE SUBCOMMITTEE AT THEIR REQUEST. MR. RYAN REPORTS THAT THEY MERELY TALKED POLITICS AND VISITED "THE WALL" AND BRANDENBURG GATE.

C. ON THE MORNING OF 11 MARCH SUBCOMMITTEE ACCOMPANIED BY EUCOM AND USAREUR ESCORT OFFICERS RECEIVED JOINT U.S. MISSION, U.S. ARMY BERLIN AND BERLIN BRIGADE BRIEFING. OVERALL CLASSIFICATION OF WHICH WAS "SECRET". MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY MAJOR GENERAL SEIGNIOUS, MINISTER MORRIS AND KEY ARMY AND MISSION OFFICERS WERE IN ATTENDANCE. TOPICS OF BRIEFING WERE AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) MISSIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF, U.S. MISSION, BERLIN AND BERLIN BRIGADE.
- (2) ORGANIZATION AND STRENGTH OF U.S. ARMY BERLIN.

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PAGE 02 BERLIN 00403 01 OF 02 141458Z

- (3) BERLIN ACCESS.
  - (4) DEUTSCH MARK FUNDING.
  - (5) U.S. MILITARY PATROLLING.
  - (6) GENERAL POLITICAL-ECONOMIC ATMOSPHERE EXISTING BETWEEN WEST BERLIN, EAST GERMANY, FRG, AND SOVIETS.
- D. MAIN TOPICS RAISED BY PINCUS AND PAUL WERE:

(1) DIFFERENCES EXISTING BETWEEN US TOURISTS OR OTHER NON-ALLIED CIVILIANS TRAVELING TO BERLIN AND ARRANGEMENTS GOVERNING ACCREDITED OFFICIAL ALLIED TRAVELERS.

ANSWER: SUBCOMMITTEE WAS BRIEFED ON ALLIED TRAVEL PROCEDURES EMPHASIZING SOVIET ROLE AND WERE INFORMED THAT TRAVELERS NOT ACCREDITED TO ALLIES WERE TREATED MUCH THE SAME AS ANY FOREIGN INTERNATIONAL TRAVELER. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE WEST BERLINER DOES NOT HAVE THE FREEDOM OF PASSAGE EXPERIENCED BY OTHER NATIONALITIES. REFERENCE WAS MADE TO RECENT ALLIED ACCESS PROBLEMS, EMPHASIZING THE FACT THAT INCIDENTS HAVE BEEN RELATIVELY LOW-KEYED SINCE 5 MARCH 1969.

(2) IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRY ON MOST RECENT US PROTEST - THE SUBCOMMITTEE WAS INFORMED THAT THIS PROTEST GREW OUT OF DISPUTE OVER DOCUMENTATION PROCEDURES FOR NON-US EMPLOYEES ON US MILITARY TRAINS. THEY WERE SUBSEQUENTLY BRIEFED ON CURRENT DOCUMENTATION PROCEDURES.

(3) IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR BROAD APPRAISAL REGARDING EAST GERMAN-VS-SOVIET ATTITUDE ON BERLIN, THE SUBCOMMITTEE WAS INFORMED THAT SPECULATIVE OBSERVATION WOULD BE THAT SOVIETS PREFER TO MAINTAIN THE STATUS QUO, WHEREAS EAST GERMANS WANT TO TAKE OVER WEST BERLIN.

(4) INQUIRY REGARDING BRANDT GOVERNMENT POLICY TOWARDS EAST GERMANY AND ITS POSSIBLE EFFECTS ON WEST BERLIN WAS REFERRED TO BONN.

(5) WHEN ASKED FOR COMPARISON ON STATUS OF COMMUNIST PARTY IN WEST GERMANY VIS-A-VIS WEST BERLIN, SUBCOMMITTEE WAS INFORMED THAT BOTH THE WEST GERMAN AND WEST BERLIN COMMUNIST PARTY WERE INEFFECTIVE BUT DID HAVE COMPLETE FREEDOM OF OPERATION.

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PAGE 03 BERLIN 00403 01 OF 02 141458Z

(6) IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS REGARDING POSSIBLE OUTCOME OF FORTHCOMING FOUR POWER BERLIN TALKS, SUBCOMMITTEE WAS GIVEN GENERAL ANSWER THAT WE WOULD HOPE FOR IMPROVED ACCESS FOR WEST GERMANS AND WEST BERLINERS TO AND FROM BERLIN AS WELL AS WITHIN BERLIN. ALSO, IMPROVED OTHER INTRA-BERLIN COMMUNICATIONS. WHEN PURSUED ON CONCESSIONS WHICH WESTERN ALLIES MIGHT MAKE, SUBCOMMITTEE WAS INFORMED THAT INFORMATION REGARDING THAT WOULD HAVE TO COME FROM BONN GOVERNMENT.

(7) SPECIFIC INQUIRIES CONCERNING INTELLIGENCE MISSIONS WERE ANSWERED IN A GENERAL WAY AND WERE FRAMED IN A NORMAL TACTICAL INTELLIGENCE CONCEPT, I.E. PATROLLING, AND MILITARY SURVEILLANCE IN EAST BERLIN AND AROUND THE PERIMETER OF THE US SECTOR. SUBJECT WAS NOT PURSUED IN ANY DEPTH BY SUBCOMMITTEE.

(8) IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRY BY MR. PINCUS, BRIEFING ON RESPONSIBILITIES AND GENERAL ORGANIZATION OF HELMSTEDT SUPPORT DETACHMENT WAS PRESENTED. VEHICLE RECOVERY PLAN FOR HELMSTEDT AUTOBAHN WAS DISCUSSED.

(9) IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION CONCERNING AIR RIGHTS OVER WEST BERLIN, SUBCOMMITTEE WAS BRIEFED ON FLYING ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE 20-MILE "RING." RESTRICTIONS WERE COVERED. HOWEVER, NO REFERENCE TO SURVEILLANCE MISSIONS WAS MADE.

(10) THE SUBCOMMITTEE INQUIRED ABOUT ITEMS PURCHASED WITH DOLLAR PORTION (1.6 MILLION) OF OPERATING BUDGET. THEY WERE INFORMED THAT THIS FIGURE REPRESENTED EXPENSES WHICH GROW OUT OF US PECULIAR ITEMS SUCH AS PARTS FOR US SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT, MEDICAL SUPPLIES, UNIFORMS, ETC. DETAILS OF DM PORTION OF THE BUDGET WERE THEN GIVEN GENERALLY WITHOUT COMMENT. IT WAS EXPLAINED THAT DM BUDGET WAS NEGOTIATED WITH WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT.

(11) IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION CONCERNING FUNDING OF TEMPELHOF CENTRAL AIRPORT, SUBCOMMITTEE WAS INFORMED THAT THE AIR FORCE HAS SEPARATE OPERATING BUDGET.

(12) SUBCOMMITTEE WAS INFORMED THAT BRITISH AND FRENCH MILITARY GARRISON CONSISTED OF APPROXIMATELY 3300 BRITISH

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PAGE 04 BERLIN 00403 01 OF 02 141458Z  
AND 2300 FRENCH MILITARY. THIS TOPIC WAS NOT PURSUED IN  
DETAIL.

(13) SUBCOMMITTEE RAISED QUESTION REGARDING AMOUNT OF  
SUPPORT, IF ANY, THAT EAST GERMANS PROVIDE TO GSFG AND  
PROVISIONS FOR RECIPROCITY. HAVING BEEN ALERTED THAT THIS  
QUESTION WOULD BE RAISED, THE MISSION HAD RESEARCHED THE  
SUBJECT AND WAS UNABLE TO DISCOVER ANY FIRM INFORMATION  
REGARDING "OFF-SET" OR ANY OTHER SIMILAR ARRANGEMENTS.  
THIS WAS ESSENTIALLY ANSWER GIVEN TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 00403 02 OF 02 141509Z

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BERLIN 0403

SUBJECT: JOINT USBER/USCOB BRIEFING FOR PINCUS AND PAUL

REF: STATE 23736

(14) SUBCOMMITTEE RAISED SEVERAL QUESTIONS REGARDING U.S. TROOP LEVEL HERE. PRINCIPALLY, REACTION OF BERLINERS WHEN TROOP STRENGTH WAS LAST REDUCED; EFFECT OF TEMPORARY ABSENCES OF FORCES TRAINING IN FRG; AND REACTION OF BERLINERS TO ANY FURTHER U.S. TROOP REDUCTION. THEY WERE INFORMED THAT LAST MAJOR REDUCTION OF TROOPS ACTUALLY WAS ACCOMPLISHED ONLY AFTER PERIOD OF TENSION FOLLOWING THE 1961 "WALL" SITUATION HAD SUBSIDED, AND DRAW-DOWN ONLY INVOLVED TROOP FORMATIONS (THE BATTALION) WHICH HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO BERLIN IN AUGUST 1961 EMERGENCY PERIOD. SUBCOMMITTEE WAS INFORMED THAT TEMPORARY ABSENCE OF TACTICAL UNITS WAS RIGIDLY CONTROLLED, AND PLANS EXIST FOR THEIR RAPID RETURN TO BERLIN. WITH REGARD TO ANY FUTURE REDUCTION IN U.S. STRENGTH, SUBCOMMITTEE WAS INFORMED BY COMMANDERS PRESENT THAT MILITARY MISSION, THE VISIBLE TROOP PRESENCE AND NEED FOR A SIZE FORCE WHICH COULD PROVIDE MEANINGFUL DETERRENT TO SWEEPING TAKE-OVER OR "FAIT ACCOMPLI" PRECLUDED ANY FORCE REDUCTION. IT WAS ALSO POINTED OUT THAT FROM ACADEMIC VIEW FORCES AVAILABLE COULD ONLY ACCOMPLISH SCREENING TYPE MISSION AROUND ENTIRE PERIMETER. MINISTER MORRIS ADDED THAT ANY FUTURE REDUCTION WOULD PROVOKE A SIGNIFICANT NEGATIVE REACTION BY THE WEST BERLIN POPULATION.

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PAGE 02 BERLIN 00403 02 OF 02 141509Z

(15) SUBCOMMITTEE ASKED THE CALIBER OF ORGANIC ARTILLERY AND WHETHER OR NOT IT HAD A NUCLEAR CAPABILITY. THERE WERE GIVEN SIZE OF HOWITZERS (105MM SP) AND THE FACT THAT IT WAS NOT NUCLEAR CAPABLE.

(16) SUBCOMMITTEE REQUESTED AND RECEIVED COPIES OF BERLIN BRIGADE CURRENT STRENGTH FIGURES AND A BREAKOUT OF DOLLAR PAY AND SUBSISTENCE COSTS. (BEING POUCHED DEPT.)

(17) AFTER BRIEF DISCOURSE ON HISTORIC BACKGROUND OF STEINSTUCKEN, SUBCOMMITTEE INQUIRED ABOUT GROUND SURVEILLANCE OUTSIDE EAST AND WEST BERLIN, MAKING REFERENCE TO USMLM. THEY WERE INFORMED THAT THE UNITED STATES MILITARY LIAISON MISSION WAS BASED IN POTSDAM AND WAS NOT UNDER CONTROL OF THIS HEADQUARTERS.

(18) PAUL ASKED WHAT SPECIFICALLY IN BRIEFING WAS "SECRET." HE WAS INFORMED THAT INTELLIGENCE ASPECTS AS WELL AS MANY PORTIONS DISCUSSED DURING PERIOD ASSOCIATING STRENGTH, MISSIONS, CAPABILITIES AND DETAILS OF ACCESS PROBLEMS MADE CLASSIFICATION "SECRET."

E. FOLLOWING JOINT BRIEFING SUBCOMMITTEE WAS MOVED TO ADJACENT BUILDING FOR BRIEFING CONDUCTED BY USASA FIELD STATION COMMANDER. COLONEL HAMILTON BRIEFED ON MISSION, LOCATION OF SITES, AND EFFECTIVENESS OF PROGRAM. ANSWERED QUERIES REGARDING STRENGTH OF UNIT, QUALITY OF EQUIPMENT, AND KNOWN TRENDS OF EAST BLOC SHIFT TO MICROWAVE. COMMITTEE TOUCHED LIGHTLY ON CZECH INVASION AND INTERCEPT ANALYSIS. ALSO INQUIRED AS TO FRENCH-BRITISH ROLE AND EQUIPMENT. THEY ACCEPTED HAMILTON'S REPLY TO "GO TO HIGHER HEADQUARTERS FOR ANSWERS." PAUL AND INTERESTED IN HISTORY OF ASA IN BERLIN, BUILDING PLANS, AND WHETHER INCREASE IN PERSONNEL WAS EXPECTED. [REDACTED] ALTHOUGH PAUL EARLIER EXPRESSED DESIRE TO SEE NEW CONSTRUCTION.

F. FOLLOWING ASA BRIEFING AT ABOUT 1105 HOURS, PAUL WAS TAKEN ON BRIEF TOUR OF EAST BERLIN. DURING THIS PERIOD PINCUS REMAINED IN U.S. HEADQUARTERS, READING NEWSPAPERS. PAUL PROCESSED THROUGH EAST GERMAN CHECKPOINT AS TOURIST AND WAS PICKED UP IN EAST BERLIN BY ESCORT OFFICER. AFTER TOUR OF ABOUT 15 MINUTES, PAUL AGAIN PROCESSED THROUGH

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PAGE 03 BERLIN 00403 02 OF 02 141509Z  
CHECKPOINT, RETURNING TO WEST BERLIN WITHOUT INCIDENT.

G. GROUP REASSEMBLED AT TEMPELHOF AIRPORT FOR WORKING LUNCHEON WITH COMMANDING OFFICER, 7350TH SUPPORT GROUP AND HIS STAFF. SYNOPSIS OF ACTIVITIES THERE FOLLOWS:

(1) SUBCOMMITTEE REQUESTED INFORMATION ON STRENGTH FIGURES, PATTERNS OF INCREASE/DECREASE SINCE 1948; COORDINATION OF INSTALLATION ACTIVITY WITH THE ARMY; FUNDING FOR OPERATION OF TEMPELHOF CENTRAL AIRPORT; RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPROVEMENTS (RUNWAY; APRONS, ETC.), PASSENGER INFORMATION; STATUS OF TEGEL AIRPORT AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS THERE. INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED. (PAPER ON STRENGTH FIGURES GIVEN SUBCOMMITTEE BEING POUCHED DEPT.)

(2) SUBCOMMITTEE REQUESTED AND RECEIVED DOLLAR FIGURES FOR PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF AIR FORCE PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO BERLIN (ALSO BEING POUCHED).

(3) NEITHER PINCUS NOR PAUL POSED QUESTION OF WHAT EFFECT ANY REDUCTION OF AIR FORCE PERSONNEL AT TEMPELHOF CENTRAL AIRPORT WOULD HAVE ON OPERATIONS OR PSYCHOLOGICALLY ON WEST BERLIN AND EUROPE.

2. OF FOUR DOCUMENTS REQUESTED AND PRESENTED, TWO WERE CONFIDENTIAL AND TWO UNCLASSIFIED.

3. DOCUMENTS REQUESTED AND DENIED: NONE.

4. IMPRESSIONS:

A. ALTHOUGH NEITHER MEMBER SPECIFICALLY COMMITTED HIMSELF, IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT MANY OF THE QUESTIONS POSED WERE DIRECTED AT DETERMINING IF THE COMMITMENT IN BERLIN COULD BE MET WITH FEWER FORCES OR WITH SOME TYPE REACTION FORCE FROM OUTSIDE THE CITY FROM AN UNDISCLOSED LOCATION.

B. THERE WAS AN IMPLIED REFERENCE TO A CONDITION WHEREIN THE CITY MIGHT BE HELD BY ONE OR BOTH THE OTHER ALLIES (BRITISH OR FRENCH) WITH U.S. REACTING IN EMERGENCY FROM SOME DISTANT LOCATION. GP-3  
MORRIS

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